## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A program parallelization device comprising:

a control/data flow analysis unit which analyzes the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

a fork point candidate determination unit which determines the fork point candidates of the sequential processing program by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow by said control/data flow analysis unit;

a parallel execution performance evaluation unit which evaluates, with respect to an input data, a parallel execution performance when the sequential processing program has been parallelized by a test combination of fork point candidates that were given;

a best fork point candidate combination determination unit which generates a test combination of the fork point candidates that were determined by said fork point candidate determination unit, provides the test combination to said parallel execution performance evaluation unit, and by taking the parallel execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated thereby as the reference, determines the best fork point candidate combination; and

a parallelized program output unit which generates and outputs a parallelized program by inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate of the best combination determined by said best fork point candidate combination determination unit,

wherein the program parallelization device transforms the sequential processing program into the parallelized program.

2. (Currently Amended) A program parallelization device comprising:

a control/data flow analysis unit which analyzes the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

a fork point candidate determination unit which determines the fork point candidates of the sequential processing program by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow by said control/data flow analysis unit;

a parallel execution performance evaluation unit which evaluates, with respect to an input data, a parallel execution performance when the sequential processing program has been parallelized by a test combination of fork point candidates that were given;

a best fork point candidate combination determination unit which generates a test combination only consisting of the combination of fork point candidates that can be simultaneously executed in the one-time fork model from the fork point candidates determined by said fork point candidate determination unit, provides the test combination to said parallel execution performance evaluation unit, and by taking the parallel execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated thereby as the reference, determines the best fork point candidate combination;

a parallelized program output unit which generates and outputs a parallelized program by inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate of the best combination determined by said best fork point candidate combination determination unit,

wherein the program parallelization device transforms the sequential processing program into the parallelized program.

3.    (Original)  The program parallelization device as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said parallel execution performance evaluation unit

generates a sequential execution trace when the sequential processing program was sequentially executed with the input data, divides the sequential execution trace by taking all the terminal point candidates as division points, analyzes thread element information for each thread element, and simulates parallel execution by units of thread element with respect to the test combination of the fork point candidates that were given to calculate the parallel execution performance.

4.    (Original)  The program parallelization device as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination unit

constructs a better combination by ranking the fork point candidates determined by said fork candidate determination unit in the order in which the fork point candidates are predicted to have an influence on parallel execution performance, and evaluating the parallel execution performance according to this order by taking the best fork point candidate combination at that time as the reference.

5.      (Original)  The program parallelization device as set forth in claim 4,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination unit

assuming that the combination of the fork point candidates including the prescribed numbers from the top in the order of the fork point candidates determined is an initial combination, evaluates the parallel execution performance of the initial combination with said parallel execution performance evaluation unit, and sets the initial combination to the best fork point candidate combination at this time.

6.      (Original)  The program parallelization device as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination unit

divides said collection of all the fork point candidates that have been determined by said fork point candidate determination unit into fork point candidate groups in such a way that the fork point candidates have as little effects as possible on each other, generates a test fork point candidate combination for a group in the divided fork point candidate groups in which the best fork point candidate combination determination processing has not been performed, performs the best fork point candidate combination determination processing that determines the best fork point candidate combination by referring to the result of parallel execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated by said parallel execution performance evaluation unit, and determines the sum of the best fork point candidate combinations, which are the processing results for each group, as the overall processing result.

7.      (Original)  The program parallelization device as set forth in claim 6,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination unit

-4-

calls the fork point candidate group partition processing taking the collection of all the fork point candidates determined by said fork point candidate determination unit as a collection after the processing of said fork point candidate determination unit has been completed, when the fork point candidate group partition processing is called, starts the group partition processing of the collection if the number of fork point candidates belonging to the given fork point candidate collection is higher than the designated division number lower limit, returns to the origin from where the fork point candidate group partition processing was called without performing the group partition processing if the number of the fork point candidates is lower, divides from the collection the fork point candidate collections in which the number of fork point candidates that cancel themselves is higher than the designated number to generate a new group, further divides the collection into two groups, recursively calls the fork point candidate group partition processing taking one group as a collection and performs group partitioning of the group, recursively calls the fork point candidate group partitioning process taking the other group as a collection and performs group partitioning of the group, returns to the origin from where the fork point candidate group partitioning process was called, performs the best fork point candidate combination determination processing for the groups in which the best fork point candidate combination determination processing has not been performed among the groups of fork point candidates that were divided, determines whether the processing of all the groups has been completed, if there is a group that has not been processed, reiterates the best fork point candidate combination determination processing for the groups that have not been processed, and, when the processing of all the groups has been completed, outputs the sum of the fork point candidate combination, which is the result of processing for each group, as the overall result.

8.    (Currently Amended)  A program parallelization method for a multithreading method in which a sequential processing program is divided into a plurality of threads and a plurality of processors execute the threads in parallel, comprising the steps of:

analyzing the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

determining the fork point candidates of the sequential processing program by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow;

generating a test fork point candidate combination from the determined fork point candidates;

evaluating, with respect to an input data, the parallel execution performance when the sequential processing program has been parallelized by the generated test fork point candidate combination;

determining a best fork point candidate combination by taking the parallel execution performance of the evaluated test fork point candidate combination as the reference; inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate in the determined best combination to generate and output a parallelized program,

wherein the sequential processing program is transformed into the parallelized program.

9.    (Currently Amended) A program parallelization method for a multithreading method in which a sequential processing program is divided into a plurality of threads and a plurality of processors execute the threads in parallel, comprising the steps of:

analyzing the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

determining the fork point candidates of the sequential processing program by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow;

generating a test combination only consisting of the fork point candidates that can be simultaneously executed in the one-time fork model from the determined fork point candidates;

evaluating, with respect to an input data, the parallel execution performance when the sequential processing program has been parallelized by the generated test fork point candidate combination;

determining a best fork point candidate combination by taking the parallel execution performance of the evaluated test fork point candidate combination as the reference;

inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate in the determined best combination to generate and output a parallelized program,

wherein the sequential processing program is transformed into the parallelized
program.

10.     (Currently Amended) A program parallelization method for a multithreading
method in which a sequential processing program is divided into a plurality of threads and a
plurality of processors execute the threads in parallel, comprising:

a step in which a control/data flow analysis unit analyzes the control flow and the data
flow of a sequential processing program;

a step in which a fork point candidate determination unit generates the fork point
candidates by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow by
the control/data flow analysis unit;

a step in which a best fork point candidate combination determination unit predicts the
effect of each of all the fork point candidates on the parallel execution performance and ranks
the fork point candidates in the order of the effect;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit generates
an initial fork point candidate combination whose parallel execution performance is evaluated
first, and which is assumed to be the best fork point candidate combination;

a step in which a parallel execution performance evaluation unit generates a sequential
execution trace when the sequential processing program was sequentially executed with the
input data;

a step in which the parallel execution performance evaluation unit divides the
sequential execution trace by taking all the terminal point candidates as division points

a step in which the parallel execution performance evaluation unit analyzes thread
element information for each thread element, and memorizes the thread element information
for each thread element.

a step in which a best fork point candidate combination determination unit selects one
fork point candidate that is ranked highest order among the non-selected fork point
candidates;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit assesses whether the fork point candidate selected is contained in the best fork point candidate combination;

a step in which, if the selected fork point candidate is not contained in the best fork point candidate combination, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit adds the selected fork point candidate to the best fork point candidate combination, and sets the fork point candidate combination as a test combination;

a step in which, if the selected fork point candidate is contained in the best fork point candidate combination, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit removes the selected fork point candidate from the best fork point candidate combination, and sets the fork point candidate combination as the test combination;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit evaluates the parallel execution performance of parallelization by the test combination through the parallel execution performance evaluation unit;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit compares the parallel execution performance of the test combination with the parallel execution performance of the best combination;

a step in which, if the parallel execution performance of the test combination is better, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit sets the test combination as the best fork point candidate combination at the current time;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit assesses whether a fork point candidate that has not been selected exists, and if a fork point candidate that has not been selected exists, reiterates execution;

a step in which, if a non-selected fork point candidate does not exist, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit assesses whether a new best fork point candidate combination is found in the previous iterative execution;

a step in which, if a new best fork point candidate combination is found, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit sets all the fork point candidates to the non-selected state for the iterative execution;

a step in which, if a new best fork point candidate combination is not found, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit outputs the determined best fork point candidate combination as the result of the best fork point candidate combination determination processing; and

a step in which a parallelized program output unit generates and outputs the parallelized program by inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate of the best combination determined by the best fork point candidate combination determination unit,

wherein the sequential processing program is transformed into the parallelized program.

11.     (Currently Amended)  A program parallelization method for a multithreading method in which a sequential processing program is divided into a plurality of threads and a plurality of processors execute the threads in parallel, comprising:

a step in which a control/data flow analysis unit analyzes the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

a step in which a fork point candidate determination unit generates the fork point candidates by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow by the control/data flow analysis unit;

a step in which a best fork point candidate combination determination unit predicts the effect of each of all the fork point candidates on the parallel execution performance and ranks the fork point candidates in the order of the effect;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit generates an initial fork point candidate combination whose parallel execution performance is evaluated first, and which is assumed to be the best fork point candidate combination;

a step in which a parallel execution performance evaluation unit generates a sequential execution trace when the sequential processing program was sequentially executed with the

input data; a step in which the parallel execution performance evaluation unit divides the sequential execution trace by taking all the terminal point candidates as division points;

a step in which the parallel execution performance evaluation unit analyzes thread element information for each thread element, and memorizes the thread element information for each thread element;

a step in which a best fork point candidate combination determination unit selects one fork point candidate that is ranked highest order among the non-selected fork point candidates;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit assesses whether the selected fork point candidate is contained in the best fork point candidate combination;

a step in which, if the selected fork point candidate is not contained in the best fork point candidate combination, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit adds the selected fork point candidate to the best fork point candidate combination, and sets the fork point candidate combination as a test combination; a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit removes the fork point candidate that cancels the selected fork point candidate from the test combination;

a step in which, if the selected fork point candidate is contained in the best fork point candidate combination, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit removes the selected fork point candidate from the best fork point candidate combination, and sets the fork point candidate combination as the test combination;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit evaluates the parallel execution performance of parallelization by the test combination through the parallel execution performance evaluation unit;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit compares the parallel execution performance of the test combination with the parallel execution performance of the best combination;

a step in which, if the parallel execution performance of the test combination is better, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit removes the fork point candidate that is canceled by the selected fork point candidate from the test combination;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit sets the test combination as the best fork point candidate combination at the current time;

a step in which the best fork point candidate combination determination unit assesses whether a fork point candidate that has not been selected exists, and if a fork point candidate that has not been selected exists, reiterates execution;

a step in which, if a non-selected fork point candidate does not exist, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit assesses whether a new best fork point candidate combination is found in the previous iterative execution;

a step in which, if a new best fork point candidate combination is found, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit sets all the fork point candidates to the non-selected state for the iterative execution;

a step in which, if a new best fork point candidate combination is not found, the best fork point candidate combination determination unit outputs the determined best fork point candidate combination to the parallelized program output unit as the result of the best fork point candidate combination determination processing; and

a step in which the parallelized program output unit generates and outputs the parallelized program by inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate of the best combination determined by the best fork point candidate combination determination unit, wherein the sequential processing program is transformed into the parallelized program.

12.    (Original)  The program parallelization method as set forth in claim 8,

wherein the step of evaluating said parallel execution performance

generates a sequential execution trace when the sequential processing program was sequentially executed with the input data, divides the sequential execution trace by taking all the terminal point candidates as division points, analyzes thread element information for each

thread element, and simulates parallel execution by units of thread element with respect to the test combination of the fork point candidates that were given to calculate the parallel execution performance.

13.    (Original)  The program parallelization method as set forth in claim 8,

wherein the step of determining the best combination of said fork point candidates

constructs a better combination by ranking the fork point candidates determined by said fork candidate determination unit in the order in which the fork point candidates are predicted to have an influence on parallel execution performance, and evaluating the parallel execution performance according to the order by taking the best fork point candidate combination at that time as the reference.

14.    (Original)  The program parallelization method as set forth in claim 8,

wherein the step of determining the best combination of said fork point candidates

divides the collection of all the fork point candidates into fork point candidate groups in such a way that the fork point candidates have as little effects as possible on each other, generates a test fork point candidate combination for a group in the divided fork point candidate groups in which the best fork point candidate combination determination processing has not been performed, performs the best fork point candidate combination determination processing that determines the best fork point candidate combination by referring to the result of parallel execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated with respect to an input data, and determines the sum of the best fork point candidate combinations, which are the processing results for each group, as the overall processing result.

15.    (Original)  The program parallelization method as set forth in claim 8,

wherein the step of determining the best combination of said fork point candidates

calls the fork point candidate group partition processing taking the collection of all the fork point candidates determined by the fork point candidate determination unit as a collection after the processing of said fork point candidate determination unit has been completed, when the fork point candidate group partition processing is called, starts the group

partition processing of the collection if the number of fork point candidates belonging to the given fork point candidate collection is higher than the designated division number lower limit, returns to the origin from where the fork point candidate group partition processing was called without performing the group partition processing if the number of the fork point candidates is lower, divides from the collection the fork point candidate collections in which the number of fork point candidates that cancel themselves is higher than the designated number to generate a new group, further divides the collection into two groups, recursively calls the fork point candidate group partition processing taking one group as a collection and performs group partitioning of the group, recursively calls the fork point candidate group partitioning process taking the other group as a collection and performs group partitioning of the group, returns to the origin from where the fork point candidate group partitioning process was called, performs the best fork point candidate combination determination processing for the groups in which the best fork point candidate combination determination processing has not been performed among the groups of fork point candidates that were divided, determines whether the processing of all the groups has been completed, if there is a group that has not been processed, reiterates the best fork point candidate combination determination processing for the groups that have not been processed, and, when the processing of all the groups has been completed, outputs the sum of the fork point candidate combination, which is the result of processing for each group, as the overall result.

      16.     (Currently Amended) A <u>computer readable medium embodying a computer</u> program parallelization program that is executed on a computer causing,

      a computer to operate as

      a control/data flow analysis function which analyzes the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

      a fork point candidate determination function which determines the fork point candidates of the sequential processing program by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow by said control/data flow analysis function;

a parallel execution performance evaluation function which evaluates, with respect to an input data, a parallel execution performance when the sequential processing program has been parallelized by a test combination of fork point candidates that were given;

a best fork point candidate combination determination function which generates a test combination of the fork point candidates that were determined by said fork point candidate determination function, provides the test combination to said parallel execution performance evaluation function, and by taking the parallel execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated thereby as the reference determines the best fork point candidate combination; and

a parallelized program output function which generates and outputs a parallelized program by inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate of the best combination determined by said best fork point candidate combination determination function.

17.     (Currently Amended)  A <u>computer readable medium embodying a computer</u> program parallelization program that is executed on a computer causing,

a computer to operate as

a control/data flow analysis function which analyzes the control flow and the data flow of a sequential processing program;

a fork point candidate determination function which determines the fork point candidates of the sequential processing program by referring to the results of the analysis of the control flow and the data flow by said control/data flow analysis function;

a parallel execution performance evaluation function which evaluates, with respect to an input data, a parallel execution performance when the sequential processing program has been parallelized by a test combination of fork point candidates that were given;

a best fork point candidate combination determination function which generates a test combination only consisting of the combination of fork point candidates that can be simultaneously executed in the one-time fork model from the fork point candidates determined by said fork point candidate determination function, provides the test combination to said parallel execution performance evaluation function, and by taking the parallel

execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated thereby as the reference, determines the best fork point candidate combination;

a parallelized program output function which generates and outputs a parallelized program by inserting a fork command at each fork point candidate of the best combination determined by said best fork point candidate combination determination function.

18.    (Currently Amended)  The ~~program parallelization program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 16,

wherein said parallel execution performance evaluation function

generates a sequential execution trace when the sequential processing program was sequentially executed with the input data, divides the sequential execution trace by taking all the terminal point candidates as division points, analyzes thread element information for each thread element, and simulates parallel execution by units of thread element with respect to the test combination of the fork point candidates that were given to calculate the parallel execution performance.

19.    (Currently Amended)  The ~~program parallelization program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 16,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination function

constructs a better combination by ranking the fork point candidates determined by said fork candidate determination function in the order in which the fork point candidates are predicted to have an influence on parallel execution performance, and evaluating the parallel execution performance according to the order by taking the best fork point candidate combination at that time as the reference.

20.    (Currently Amended)  The ~~program parallelization program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 19,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination function

assuming that the combination of the fork point candidates including the prescribed numbers from the top in the order of the fork point candidates determined is an initial combination, evaluates the parallel execution performance of the initial combination with said

parallel execution performance evaluation function, and sets the initial combination to the best fork point candidate combination at this time.

21.    (Currently Amended)  The ~~program parallelization program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 16,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination function

divides the collection of all the fork point candidates that have been determined by said fork point candidate determination function into fork point candidate groups in such a way that the fork point candidates have as little effects as possible on each other, generates a test fork point candidate combination for a group in the divided fork point candidate groups in which the best fork point candidate combination determination processing has not been performed, performs the best fork point candidate combination determination processing that determines the best fork point candidate combination by referring to the result of parallel execution performance of the test fork point candidate combination evaluated by said parallel execution performance evaluation function, and determines the sum of the best fork point candidate combinations, which are the processing results for each group, as the overall processing result.

22.    (Currently Amended)  The ~~program parallelization program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 21,

wherein said best fork point candidate combination determination function

calls the fork point candidate group partition processing taking the collection of all the fork point candidates determined by said fork point candidate determination function as a collection after the processing of said fork point candidate determination function has been completed, when the fork point candidate group partition processing is called, starts the group partition processing of the collection if the number of fork point candidates belonging to the given fork point candidate collection is higher than the designated division number lower limit, returns to the origin from where the fork point candidate group partition processing was called without performing the group partition processing if the number of the fork point candidates is lower, divides from the collection the fork point candidate collections in which the number of fork point candidates that cancel themselves is higher than the designated

-16-

number to generate a new group, further divides the collection into two groups, recursively calls the fork point candidate group partition processing taking one group as a collection and performs group partitioning of the group, recursively calls the fork point candidate group partitioning process taking the other group as a collection and performs group partitioning of the group, returns to the origin from where the fork point candidate group partitioning process was called, performs the best fork point candidate combination determination processing for the groups in which the best fork point candidate combination determination processing has not been performed among the groups of fork point candidates that were divided, determines whether the processing of all the groups has been completed, if there is a group that has not been processed, reiterates the best fork point candidate combination determination processing for the groups that have not been processed, and, when the processing of all the groups has been completed, outputs the sum of the fork point candidate combination, which is the result of processing for each group, as the overall result.